

EXHIBIT

3881

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Document No. 3048

Excerpts from Publication "Gunkoku Gaho"

Militant Graphic Vol. I

Date of publication: April 3, 1904
Publishing office : Fuzanbo

pp 8,9

The Imperial Rescript of His Majesty
the Emperor of Japan Declaring War.

We, the Emperor of Japan, by the Grace of Heaven, ascending the Imperial Throne in a line unbroken for ages eternal, make known to our loyal and brave subjects.

We hereby declare war on Russia. Our Army and Navy will concentrate all their power and pursue the war against Russia, and each and all our competent authorities will follow their respective duties and make efforts to attain the ultimate aim of the Nation according to their respective abilities. Every measure within the limit of International Regulations must be resorted to and exhaustive calculation will be anticipated. We long held it as the essential of our diplomatic relations to seek for civilization in peace and to promote friendly relations and thereby maintain forever the public peace of the East, and to firmly establish a situation which would eternally secure the future safety of our Empire without impairing the rights and interests of other powers, and which we expected to follow day and night. Our government authorities also complied with our wishes and our relations with the Powers improved year by year. Unfortunately, we are now obliged to resort to arms against Russia. How can it be our will?

It is not a matter of a day's thinking that our Empire lays importance on the integrity of Kan-koku. Not only is this founded on the relations of the two countries through successive generations, but now the security of our Empire depends on the rise or fall of Kan-koku. However, regardless of her covenant with Shin-koku and her successive declarations to the Powers, Russia still occupies Manchuria and is further strengthening her position there, and is now on the verge of absorbing it altogether. If perchance, Manchuria be annexed to Russia, the integrity of Kan-koku will lose its footing and peace in the Far East will be impaired as a matter of course. Therefore, we had been aiming at the permanent maintenance of peace by compromising and settling the situation on this occasion and ordered our competent authorities to make proposals to Russia. Although we have continuously negotiated with Russia for over half a year, she has shown no sign of accepting the proposals in a conciliatory spirit, and the settlement of the situation has been delayed by her dilatory tactics. Russia advocates peace outwardly but she has been increasing her naval and military strength behind the curtain and has tried

to make our Empire submit to her will. Russia has not shown the least sincerity in desiring peace from the very first. Russia will not acknowledge our Empire's proposal, so the security of Kan-koku is now at stake, and the interests of our Empire are now also endangered. The situation has come to this pass. We have no alternative but to resort to arms to procure future security which we had been endeavoring to acquire through peaceful negotiations. We rely on our subjects' loyalty and valour, and anticipate the speedy restoration of eternal peace and thereby preserve the glory of our Empire.

Gyomei-Gyoji/the Imperial sign and seal/
Feb 10, 1904

Countersigned by the respective
Cabinet Ministers

Excerpts from Publication "Gunkoku Gaho"

War Account
By Saisui SUGITANI

Vol. 1, pp 1-5

True Account of the Russo-Japanese War

P. 1 I. Preparations for the Opening of Hostilities

Diplomatic negotiations for six months can hardly be said to be short. During that time even without the help of experts we were able to guess the true intentions of both the countries. It became obvious from about December on that a war was inevitable. As a matter of fact Russia's military power in the Far East had been undergoing continuous reinforcement even before that. Japan could not depend on diplomatic negotiations alone either. On the 29th of December, a military conference was held at the official residence of the Prime Minister. On the 30th of the same month, two warships of the Republic of Argentina in South America were bought from a dockyard in Italy. The two warships were named NISSHIN and KASUGA on New Year's Day of 1904 and were ordered to sail home at once. Beginning with the 5th of the same month, the publication in newspapers of military secrets and plans were placed under ban and the Army and the Navy hastened war preparations. It was about this time that a Russian steamer carrying one thousand chosen artillery men passed through the Suez Canal. It was also at this time that the Governor General for the Far East, Alexeev, was awarded a special general flag and accorded the privilege of receiving a salute of 12 guns. - - - -

It was in the middle part of January. The Military Council was formed on the fourteenth of the same month. The two field-m Marshals YAMAGATA and OYAMA, the two ministers YAMAMOTO and TERAUCHI, Chief of the General Staff ITO, Generals NOZU, INOUE and OKU were respectively appointed war councilors. Nippon Yusen Kaisha /the Japan Mail Steamship Company/ and Toyo Kisen Kaisha /East Asia Steamship Company/ were ordered to suspend the European-American and Australian Lines. The Minister of Finance invited the bankers living in the Tokyo-Yokohama district to his official residence. The elder statesmen frequently proceeded to the Imperial Palace. Imperial emergency ordinances such as ordinances concerning defense on sea, the military requisition of railways and a military mail service, etc., were successively promulgated. - - - -

It was at this time that two ships of the Russian Volunteer Fleet sailed for the East. One thousand men from the barracks of Port Arthur were also distributed along the shore facing the Korean border. Six thousand Russian soldiers also started for the Yalu River. Also about this time, we received a report that War Minister KROPATKIN would personally command the Army. And Russia still kept silent and did not reply to our diplomatic negotiations.

February came, all too soon, and on the 3rd, a conference of the elder statesmen was held for the third time. It was on this day that the Russian fleet in the port of Vladivostok removed all wooden parts from the ships as a preparation for departure. On the 4th was held the memorable third council in the Imperial presence. It was also on this day that the Russian fleet in Port Arthur which had left the port previously returned again. Our government decided to take unrestrained military action, whereas it was reported that Russia had also given Alexeev the authority to declare war and to take hostile action.

Foreign Minister KOMURA telegraphed an ultimatum to Minister KURINO in St. Petersburg the next day and instructed him to deliver it to the Russian Government, and on the following day our government summoned Russian Minister ROSEN in Tokyo and gave him a similar notification, the substance of which was that "although our Government proposed a peace conference to the Russian Government in order to preserve the territorial integrity of Manchuria and Korea, your Government completely lacked sincerity in accepting the proposal, so we have decided to cut off all diplomatic relations. We will hereafter act freely in whatever way we think best for the protection of our legal rights."

Severing of diplomatic relations means opening of hostilities. Needless to say, at the same moment, the order to advance was given to the Commander in Chief of our combined fleet in the naval port of Sasebo.

P. 2 II. Departure of the Fleet

The War Council was already decided. The best and incomparable combined fleet began to leave the port in good order at nine o'clock on the morning of the sixth of February, the flagship MIKASA leading, and the

1st fleet, the 2nd fleet and so forth to the _____ fleet following majestically, and aboard were Commander in Chief TOGO, Heihachiro, composed and brave, able officers, and highly trained and desperately courageous soldiers. The Commander in Chief of Sasebo Naval Port SAMEJIMA saw them off with military music and signalled to the fleet that he wished Commander in Chief TOGO's success to which Vice Admiral TOGO signalled back that he was sure of success. The whole fleet consisting of fifty-five ships set sail in line ahead to the boundless wide ocean; their destiny Port Arthur or Vladivostok? - - -

I will briefly state here the disposition of the enemy men-of-war. Russia had been doing her best to reinforce the Eastern fleet since the opening of diplomatic negotiations. In other words, she had gone so far as to send almost all of the most powerful men-of-war of the Baltic fleet, which was indispensable for home defense, to the Far East. This meant that the cream of the Russian Navy had been transferred to the East. It was a powerful fleet, consisting of 29 men-of-war, battleships, armoured cruisers, cruisers, armoured gun boats, coast-defense ships, gun-boats and torpedo gun boats, the total being 174,000 tons. Besides these, there were fifteen torpedo boat destroyers and fourteen torpedo boats. Among these, seven men-of-war totalling 44,000 tons and several destroyers and torpedo boats were based at Vladivostok and the remaining 21 ships, totalling 130,000 tons were stationed at Port Arthur. On about the sixth of April, one first class cruiser and one gun-boat were detached from the fleet in Port Arthur and sent to Jinsen, and another gun-boat was sent to Shanghai. In other words, the enemy fleet was divided in two and afterwards in four. This may or may not have been a proper strategy for the enemy, but it was something our side was to take great advantage of.

P. 3 At dawn of the following seventh of February, when our combined fleet was sailing the sea off the coast of Korea, they spied a merchant-ship far to the southwest. Messenger-ship TATSUTA was ordered to reconnoiter and accordingly it became known that it was a Russian merchant ship 'Russia'. It was immediately captured by orders and brought to the main fleet. What a good omen to capture 'Russia' at the very opening of hostilities. According to the report of H.M.S. AKASHI which had preceded the main fleet, the enemy warships were still in Port Arthur, and the cruiser Varyak and gun-boat Korets had gone out to Jinsen. Thereupon, at three o'clock in the afternoon of that same day, the combined fleet held a captains' conference at sea off the coast of Korea and as its result, Commander of the 4th fleet URYU was ordered to take the course towards Jinsen, with five ships, H.M.S. ASAMA, NANIWA, NIITAKA, TAKACHIHO and AKASHI, and two torpedo squadrons conveying three transports. Commander in Chief TOGO signalled his wish for their success to which the Commander signalled back his gratitude. All the members of the main fleet manned the side and saw them off with military music. The main fleet continued its advance. Then again, they spied another merchant-ship and AZUMA was sent to capture it. It was a Russian transport Aluzin. CHIHAYA was ordered to convoy it back to Sasebo. The west wind was very strong that evening and they could hardly sleep. They were all very anxious lest their attack might be inconvenienced, and moreover strict watch was kept throughout the

night as caution against a night attack by enemy torpedo boats. However, by the blessings of Heaven, the weather improved by the following morning and a cloudless fine morning without wind or wave dawned. The whole fleet burst into three cheers of joy and taking heart it continued its advance. Orders for torpedo attack were given at a position sixty knots from Port Arthur, according to the prearranged plan to first of all attack the enemy fleet with destroyers and torpedo squadrons. From the flagship MIKASA was signalled the orders to "sink the enemy ships and wishing them all success" to which the Commander of the destroyers (Captain ASAI) replied that they would attain success even at the price of their lives. Simultaneously arose from the main fleet, the roaring cheers of "Banzai" from the fleet members manning the side and the squadron departed.

III. The Glorious Exploit of the Torpedo Night Attack

P. 4 At six o'clock on the evening of the eighth of February, in the year 1904, the destroyers SHIRAKUMO, KASUMI, ASASHIO, INAZUMA, AKEBONO, USUGUMO, SAZANAMI, AKATSUKI, IKAZUCHI, OBORO and SHINONOME, and seven torpedo boats (five squadrons in all), advanced straight on to the mouth of Port Arthur. The fourth and the fifth squadrons advanced to Dairen Bay and searched the harbor but they could not find a single enemy ship. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd squadrons headed for Port Arthur and arrived at their objective at eleven in the night. Most of the Russian warships lay at anchor as had been expected in the position outside the port also as had been anticipated. Counting by the light at the gangway, there were sixteen in all. The enemy had stationed destroyer squadrons far out of the port on guard, but they offered no resistance even when our torpedo squadron drew near. Our destroyers took no heed of them and advanced to a very near distance of 3000 meters (26 cho) and our men were able to see clearly the figures of men walking on the decks of the enemy men-of-war with lighted lamps. Our time had come. We instantly opened fire. The enemy were taken by surprise and were thrown into confusion. They suddenly began firing by the aid of search lights but not one single shot found its target. Our eighteen boats rushed to and fro among the enemy ships, firing fish-torpedoes and several of them were ascertained to have hit the important part of the enemy warships. At 2 A.M. the firing was suspended and the boats returned and joined the main fleet. The enemy had their warships severely damaged but, during the night, the enemy destroyers in the port did not participate in the fight in the least and only twelve shots are said to have been fired from the fort. It may be imagined what the surprise of this night attack was.

The torpedo boats outside the port, for instance, were reported to have been thrown into such a state of confusion that they fought among themselves in the dark, 36 being killed and 120 injured. Furthermore, the risk on our side was by no means little, either. At about 11:30 we saw two enemy scouting ships proceed eastward to a point one kilometer from us and then change their course westward. Our torpedo boat flotilla lost no time in advancing then. They passed between the enemy fleet and a small battery; then signalling the names of the torpedo boats they had just ascertained and taking a sudden turn after pretending that they were going to enter the harbour of Port Arthur, they discharged torpedoes in

volleys at the larger ships of the enemy fleet. The difficulty at the time of withdrawal was still greater; our ships lost sight of one another, but after half an hour all the ships succeeded in joining the main force safely.

The success of this night attack was very great.

P. 5 According to the official report of the Governor-General Alexeev, the damages are as follows:

1st official report: At midnight of the 8th of February, Japanese torpedo boats attempted to sink the Russian men-of-war lying at anchor outside the fortress of Port Arthur, damaged Russian warships Retvizan (12,700 tons) and Tsesarevich (13,100 tons) and 1st class cruiser Pallada (6,630 tons). The rest is omitted.

2nd official report: The three damaged men-of-war are still floating. The Tsesarevich received damage at the gunwale, the Retvizan near the ordinary pump in the lower part of the waterline, and Pallada near the central engine, but casualties were small. The rest omitted.

From this we can see that the Tsesarevich had her right gunnel quarter near the stern blown up, the Pallada had a great hole about 28 feet wide made in her coal-bunker below the right gunnel quarter and the Retvizan was down by the bows through being damaged below the waterline. The Tsesarevich and the Pallada barely made the West Port towed by tugboats and the Retvizan ran aground on a bank so as to escape sinking by herself, and is lying at the mouth of the port.

The names of the honourable officers who distinguished themselves from the very beginning of the Russo-Japanese War are as follows:

Fleet Commander, Captain	ASAI, Masajiro
Fleet Commander, Commander	ISHIDA, Ichiro
Fleet Commander, Commander	TSUCHIYA, Mitsukane
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	HAZAMA, Kota
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	MATSUNAGA, Mitsunori
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	KUZUMI, Masao
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	KONDO, Tsunematsu
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	OSHIM., Masaki
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	SHINOHARA, Rishichi
Ship Captain, Lt. Commander	OYAMA, Takanosuki
Ship Captain, Lieutenant	SUEMATSU, Naojiro
Ship Captain, Lieutenant	MITSUMURA, Kinzaburo
Ship Captain, Lieutenant	YOSHIDA, Moshi
Ship Captain, Lieutenant	TAKEMURA, Hango

C E R T I F I C A T E

I am a librarian at the Library of the Tokyo Imperial University, and
I certify as follows:

Military Graphic /GUNKOKU GAHO/ Vol. I-V.
published by Fuzanbo
from April -- August, 1904 /Meiji 37/ one volume
ZG-28, B 32574

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doc 3048 excerpt 2

No 2

露國義勇艦隊の二隻が東航の途に於ても此時であらう旅順の兵營から一千の兵が朝鮮境界に向ふ其の海岸に分布せられたのも此の時である。六千の露兵が鴨綠江に向つたのも此の時である。陸相のロトキンが自ら陸軍を指揮するとの報導が亦た此の時である。而して外交上の交渉に對しては露國は依然何等の回答をも与へなかつた。二月と云ふ。その三日に予三元老會議は開かれ、浦港の露國艦隊が出發準備として艦上の本枝部を撤去せられたる自である。四日には記憶すべき事三回、御前會議がある。第一に於ける露國の主力艦隊が度々港を出入りし又歸るものなりである。我が政府に於ては軍事的自由行動をなすに決し露國に於ても宣戰の布告及び敵討行為も大予の權をアミニツと与へたものとある。その翌日小村外務大臣は外交断絶の通牒を聖彼得堡の常野に使に打電し露國政府に送る。翌六日東京駐在の露國に使にせし召して同様の通牒を与へん。その趣意は滿韓の領土を保全し永く東洋の平和を維持せん爲め。我が日本政府は露國政府に和平の協定を提出したるに貴國政府は到底之をも容るゝの誠の意なきを以て。今日より外交の關係を斷つことに決したり。今後我々は正當の權益を防護する事に最良と思ふ自由の行動を取ら

Doc 3048 excerpt 2

N03

べしといふてゐた。

外交折衝は同義を意味する。同じ瞬間に佐佐保軍をたゞ我々聯合艦隊の司令長官に向けて「進撃」の命令の下つたのは言うまでもない。

二、艦隊、進発

軍議はとゞきつゝある。精銳無比の聯合艦隊は司令長官東郷平八郎も始め沈勇機略將校精練決死の士を裁き、二月六日午前九時、旗艦三笠を先頭として第一艦隊第二艦隊以下各艦隊も各部隊整々として逐次港外に出発した。とうとう時、敵軍佐佐保司令長官は軍議を以て一行を送り、東郷司令長官の成功も祈ると信號した。東郷中將は「誓ひて成功を期す」と返禮しつゝ、屹然たる五十五隻の全艦隊船艦相俦んで渺々たる大洋に向つた。目ざすは旅順か浦鹽か。

doc 3048 event 3

NO 4

二に敵艦隊の部署を一言し置く。露國は外交
談判の開始以來出来るだけ力を以て、東洋艦隊
の勢力を増加するに努めた。即ち本國に於て國防
上最も必要なるバルチック艦隊中の巨艦たるもの
大方残存、極東に回航せしむる取りを直ぐ露國に決定。
精銳を發して東洋に移したるもの、學府艦、旅順巡洋艦
巡洋艦、旅順甲砲艦、海防艦、砲艦及び水雷艦、合計二十九隻
七万四千噸、外に水雷艇、逐逐艇十五隻、水雷艇十四隻といふ莫大なる
勢力である。而して其の半は四万四千噸と逐逐艇及び水雷艇
若干を浦述に置き、その余の十一隻十三万噸と旅順に置き、
而して四月六日の本務には更に旅順艦隊の中から一等巡洋艦一隻
と砲艦一隻とを合して仁川に航せしめ、又砲艦一隻を出して釜山に
置きしのである。即ち敵の艦隊は大体に於て三合し更に四合しとす
るべきである。是は敵に取れば至極の軍略であるが、亦日露軍の
大に差を以て示してある。又三月廿日の露俄聯合艦隊が朝鮮
沖を航進し、南西遠方に一隻の商船を認め、傳令
艦龍田に令して偵察せしむる。露國の商船のやうである。
直ちに捕獲を命じし引き寄せしむる。開戦の前途に於て露國の
左破るには何等の言然も。既に先づ明石艦隊の報告に
敵艦は依然旅順港にあり、巡洋艦ワヤークと砲艦コロツとが
仁川に出るものと云ふ。そこで同日午後三時聯合艦隊は朝鮮沖の
海上に艦長會議を開き、その結果、第四艦隊の瓜生司令官に
命じて、遼東、旅順、高、高を總破し、五隻及び水雷艦隊隊
を令して運送船三隻を保護して仁川に向ふ進發をしめす。

Doc 3048 excerpt 3

と云ふ。敵の艦門の煙火は多て四つありと報告十六度あり。
而して敵は港外遠かに駆逐隊を重く見張るゝが、我が
水雷艇が近づくと見て砲撃の抵抗を、と云ふ。我が駆逐隊
は二小台開き、奥深く進んで三千メートル(約三千六百)の距離
に接近し、敵艦の甲板の上をうづと掃へて(約三十分)と云ふ。
我が艇に認められ、おどろかされた。機材十分である。即ち直ちに砲
火を開いた。敵は全く不意に狼狽を極め、遠かに探照燈を
照らし、六発砲を我が艇も受うぬ。我が八隻の艇隊は縦横に
敵艦の間を駆けまわつて、多量に魚雷を放ち、その数隻
の艦に敵艦の要部に命中したるを見定め、午前二時
発射を止め、引が本艦隊に合ふ。敵は斯く是れにその
軍艦を破壊されたるに、翌夜敵の駆逐艦は港内にあり
た。二つの戦艦と與ふ事、又要害から僅かに十二発を發
射するのみである。この夜龍谷が如何の不意にあらむが
空せられる。

Nov

doc 3048 excerpt 4

殊に港外の水雷艇の如きは狼狽の餘り暗の中に同方向に
死者三十六、傷者百二十を数えたとす。命いとも味方の目撃
も決して少くでは無かつた。十一時三十分頃敵の二哨艦の
航しつゝ我れを距る約一千メートルに近づき、それより方向
を轉じて西航するに遇つた。そこで我の水雷艇隊は猶豫なく
突進して敵の艦隊と小砲台との間を過ぎ、今知り得たる敵
の水雷艇の名を信号に名乗りつゝ旅順の港内に入ると見
て我れを縛回し、敵艦中の大艦を目標として一斉に水雷を
發射した。而して引上る時は更に困難で各艦艇互に見
失はれた。三十分を経るに及ぶと我れの本艦隊に合する事も得
た。この攻撃の成功は多大のものであつた。

敵の德督アムステルダム公報に據ると下。通す

(第一回公報)二月八日夜半日本水雷艇六隻旅順口東港外ニ
アル露國艦隊ヲ襲撃セントシ露國戰艦レトキサン

(二七〇〇噸)ツエサレワイケ(一三〇〇噸)一巡洋艦バルラ
(六二〇噸)損傷セリ。下略

(第二回公報)損傷ヲ受ケタル三艦、尚ホ浮ビツアリ。ツエ
サレワイケハ舷部ヲ破傷セリ。レトキサンハ水線下部ニ異常
用ボツ、且ツ破ラレ。バルラハ艦中央機関、近辺ヲ傷メ
テ死傷ハサレ。下略

即ちツエサレワイケハ艦尾に近く右舷クラーツアを撃破せられ
バルラハ右舷クラーツアの下の石炭庫に二十呎四方の大孔と明リ
ラレ。レトキサンハ水線下部を破られ、艦首の方に傾斜してツエサレ
ワイケとバルラとは曳船に曳かれ、緩やかに西港に入り、レトキサンは沈没を
免れ得ん為に自ら浅瀬に乗り上げ、港口に横つたのである。

Doc 3048

證明書

私は東京帝國大學圖書館司書ですが左記を
證明します

「軍國畫報 第一卷—第五卷 高山房發行

明治三十七年四月—八月 合一冊

ZG-28 B32.574

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